

## Message Text

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14

ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 OES-06 DLOS-06 SAL-01 CG-00

DOT-00 EB-07 COME-00 (ISO) R

DRAFTED BY L/OES:JBAILLY:MERS

APPROVED BY L/OES - RONALD J. BETTAUER

L/OES - MR. COLSON

OES/OFA/FA - MR. HALLMAN

ARA/CAR - MR. STRASSER

----- 127117

R 050756Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 220702

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS, DR

SUBJECT: PROPOSED EXPLORATION IN SILVER BANK - WEBER  
SYSTEMS INC.

REF: SANTO DOMINGO 4018

1. PURSUANT TO THE CONVENTION ON THE CONTINENTAL SHELF,  
USG RECOGNIZES SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OF THE COASTAL STATE OVER  
THE CONTINENTAL SHELF FOR THE PURPOSE OF QUOTE EXPLORING  
IT AND EXPLOITING ITS NATURAL RESOURCES UNQUOTE.  
DEPARTMENT IS UNCERTAIN WHETHER THE NATURE/OR LOCATION OF  
WEBER'S PROPOSED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES WOULD FALL WITHIN  
AREA USG WOULD REGARD AS DOMINICAN CONTINENTAL SHELF, AND  
IF SO, WHETHER WEBER'S ACTIVITIES WOULD CONSTITUTE QUOTE  
EXPLORING IT AND EXPLOITING ITS NATURAL RESOURCES. UNQUOTE.  
LEGISLATIVE HISTORY OF CONVENTION CLEARLY INDICATES THAT  
SHIPWRECKS ARE NOT TO BE CONSIDERED A NATURAL RESOURCE OF  
THE CONTINENTAL SHELF OVER WHICH COASTAL STATE COULD  
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EXERCISE ITS RIGHTS.

2. IN VIEW OF THESE UNCERTAINTIES, EMBASSY SHOULD NOT ACT  
AS AGENT FOR WEBER OR USE USG NAME IN PROVIDING ASSISTANCE.  
HOWEVER, DEPARTMENT HAS NO OBJECTION TO EMBASSY PROVIDING  
WEBER WITH INFORMATION AND ADVICE AS PART OF ROUTINE

ASSISTANCE TO AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN PURSUING COMMERCIAL  
INTERESTS ABROAD. THE FACT THAT SUCH COMMERCIAL INTEREST  
MAY BE AT VARIANCE WITH POSITION THAT USG WOULD TAKE AS  
INTERNATIONAL LEGAL MATTER, SHOULD NOT RESTRICT MR.  
WEBER'S OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE HIS COMMERCIAL INTERESTS  
NOR LIMIT THE EMBASSY IN PROVIDING ROUTINE ASSISTANCE. ROBINSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LAW OF THE SEA, CONTINENTAL SHELF, EXPLOITATION (NATURAL RESOURCES)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE220702  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JBAILLY:MERS  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760337-0138  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760988/aaaacxpu.tel  
**Line Count:** 73  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN L  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 SANTO DOMINGO 4018  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26 JUL 2004 by ullricre>; APPROVED <04 NOV 2004 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PROPOSED EXPLORATION IN SILVER BANK - WEBER SYSTEMS INC.  
**TAGS:** PLOS, DR  
**To:** SANTO DOMINGO  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006